Winter 2010

CSBS Statements, v12, Winter 2010

University of Northern Iowa. College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

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I am very excited to be leading CSBS at this time. Although we face some challenging times ahead, we have an extraordinary and dedicated faculty and staff, excellent students and loyal alumni. In the five months since my appointment to the deanship, I have had an opportunity to learn of the many outstanding contributions that the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences makes to the campus, from having the most students study abroad, to the cutting edge research and extensive community outreach that our faculty and students engage in.

A number of new initiatives have been undertaken this year in the college, including developing a five-year strategic plan, promoting and supporting grant activity by faculty, fostering interdisciplinary programs that can find synergies between different programs, finding ways to support our students in study abroad programs, internships, and research experiences, and creating a more diverse faculty and student body that reflect the population of the nation and prepare our students to work and live in a diverse world.

One of the most important initiatives we are undertaking is a more active alumni outreach effort. Alumni are an important part of our programs, along with faculty and students. Our alums can help place students in internships and jobs, be a source of adjuncts, and of course their generosity can help us meet important needs. I’ve asked departments to do a number of things including to stay in touch with alumni through newsletters, personal contacts and other means, and invite alumni to departmental and college events as well as to speak in classes. At the college level we are working at having an “alumni day” in the spring semester and are developing plans to create a CSBS Advisory Board, made up of alumni who can assist us in promoting the great things our college does. Finally, I am working with the UNI Foundation to identify and promote “naming” opportunities in a renovated Sabin Hall, to help recognize the achievements of the many faculty and alumni of our college.

Even as we work towards these efforts, we are faced with unprecedented fiscal challenges. As I write this, the Governor of Iowa has announced an unprecedented 10 percent across the board cut in state agencies, including the Regents universities, in reaction to falling revenues. After nearly a decade of declining or stagnant budgets, our programs are overstretched and our ability to meet the needs of students is fraying. With the hard work and dedication of our faculty, students and alumni, I am sure CSBS will be able to emerge from this economic storm poised to meet the promises as well as the challenges that await us.
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CSBS Statements
Volume 12  Winter 2010

CSBS Statements is published annually by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Northern Iowa for its alumni and friends.

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The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences encourages correspondence from alumni and friends. Send letters to CSBS Dean's Office
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Thanks to those who provided additional photos for CSBS Statements — Cover: University Marketing and Public Relations; p2: Matt Kostle; p3: Jack and Carole Yates, Alex Oberle; p4: Molly Wade (UMPR), Carol Cook; p5: Pat Geadelmann, Department of Psychology, Mitchell Strauss; p6: Molly Wade (UMPR), Donald Gaff; p8: Elizabeth Messerli; p9: Mitchell Strauss; pp10-11: John Aronowitz; p13: Ellen Habel; back cover: Brenda Bass
Building the Future: Sabin Hall renovation update

It’s been nearly a year since Sabin Hall was closed for renovation, and crews have been making significant progress on the total overhaul of the building. The reconstruction phase has already begun. By this time next year, we’ll be getting ready to move back to our home!

The renovation of Sabin Hall presents the college with an opportunity to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of its alumni and faculty and their contributions to the university, through the naming of classrooms, seminar rooms, the lecture hall and other spaces in the building. Such recognition can remind today’s students of the long history of distinguished service and dedication that has contributed to the success of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

For more information and guidelines about naming opportunities in Sabin Hall, please contact John Aronowitz at (800) 782-952, (319) 273-5468, or john.aronowitz@uni.edu.

Right: Crews have begun the reconstruction of the former lecture hall. Fitted with new beams, the old two-story space will become two separate floors to accommodate more usable space. Although the building’s characteristic north windows will be bisected by the new floor, they will remain largely unchanged on the exterior. Far right: The old lecture hall’s new beams can be seen here from the southeast corner of the space. In the finished building, this vantage point will be a balcony that overlooks a four-story open atrium covered by a clear skylight. For more photos, go to www.uni.edu/csbs/sabin.

Left: The new lecture hall will be moved one level below its former location. The seating will remain tiered but will be oriented toward the north plaza that adjoins Maucker Union. A new mechanical system will allow the windows seen here to be covered and used as a projection surface when needed.
Being Green

The emphasis in the renovation of Sabin Hall is promoting sustainability and efficiency among its users. From campus-wide initiatives to personal commitments, CSBS faculty, students, and staff are also spreading their green vision throughout the UNI community and beyond.

Matt Kostle, a senior in sociology from Walford, Iowa, is at the forefront of sustainability and energy efforts on campus. In his own words, he shares the inspiration for his involvement, how he’s helped the cause, and how the social and behavioral sciences can play a major role in solving critical environmental issues:

On a personal level I have been interested in and an advocate for the environment for a long time. When I was a kid my father would take me on camping and fishing trips, and in doing so taught me to appreciate nature. As for actually working on improving the environment, I started a recycling club all the way back in grade school.

When I came to UNI I started getting more involved again and found that I had let my passions lay dormant for several years and was ready to start making some real changes, so I got involved in and eventually took leadership of the organization Green Project UNI. We went on to increase recycling on campus (the group donated the original blue plastic recycling bins in the central campus area). We also hosted an ‘eat local’ event in the Rialto dining center on campus where we helped prepare one of the venues with mostly locally acquired food. We have hosted a national teach-in, which featured several local professionals speaking about various topics on the environment from global warming to energy efficiency to the psychological effects of being in touch with nature. We have done fundraising, such as pairing with the local DaVinci’s Pizza and delivering pizzas for a weekend in environmentally friendly vehicles. We have also sponsored and/or provided help for such events as Earth Day, Sandra Steingraber [an internationally recognized expert on the environmental links to cancer and reproductive health] who spoke at UNI’s Center for Energy and Environmental Education (CEE), and the Rider Hall Recycling Revolution.

After I finish at UNI I am uncertain where I will go with my passion for the environment. There is so much out there right now that is going on and so much that has yet to begin in this broad field that the possibilities are quite open. All I really know is that there is a real need for some changes in how we interact with our environment, and I would like to be a part of helping to foster those changes. I have always enjoyed helping people and I can think of few better ways to help people then to help conserve, protect, and foster sustainable growth in the environment in which we all live.

While the issues we face in the environment are perceived as a scientific issue or as needing scientific solutions, I believe they are largely a social problem. Many of the threats we face in the future within the environment are due to social choices that we have made, and many can be solved by simply changing some of those choices. This makes the environment that much more important to social scientists, and I believe it is time we put some hard investments of time and money into such programs and institutions which host the social sciences. While the knowledge we have acquired about the environmental issues that we are plagued with often comes from the geologic or biological sciences, I believe it will be up to the social scientists to pursue the changes that need to be enacted to solve or reduce some of these issues we are facing. I only hope that other social scientists will agree and help as well.

Right: Alpacas graze near Lake Chungara at 15,000+ feet in the Chilean altiplano. This is just one of over 21,000 photos collected by the curriculum development project, “Geography Curricular Development to Enhance Latin America/Chilean Area Studies”. To see more photos, or to learn more about the Geographic Alliance of Iowa, visit www.uni.edu/gai.
Jack Yates, professor of psychology, is both professionally and personally engaged with environmental causes.

Most recently, and with a grant from the Iowa Energy Center, he used social science strategies to help two Iowa colleges replicate the successful energy-reduction challenge between dorm floors developed at UNI through other IEC grants. The project involved training staff and students at Luther and Wartburg Colleges to develop a campus-to-campus energy reduction challenge. Training included recruiting student participants, developing surveys, and participating in events. The goal was to involve students and encourage behavior change in energy use in residence halls during a month-long competition featuring a different element of energy reduction each week. Information from students and faculty indicated that this competition engaged both campuses extensively, and more students became aware of the need to reduce energy use.

The Yates family also lives their commitment to environmentalism. Carole Yates, in addition to being Dr. Yates’s wife, is the communication and grants coordinator at UNI’s CEEE. As part of her duties at the CEEE, she organized this year’s Cedar Valley Solar/Energy Efficiency Tour, where alternative-energy homes in five area communities were open to the public. The Yates home was included on the tour as an example of a passive solar home.

The Yateses are also known across campus for biking to work, even during the brutal Iowa winter. That's what we call dedication to a cause.

Above right: The home of Carole and Jack Yates features a photovoltaic system (solar electric) that produces 85% to 90% of the home's electrical needs and a solar thermal/evacuated tube system for domestic hot water and in-floor heating.

Latin American Curricular Development

An initiative directed and coordinated by two geography professors—and funded by a $82,514 grant—allowed 11 Iowa educators and one Minnesota educator to travel to Chile for a four-week professional development program earlier this summer. A US Department of Education program awarded the grant to CSBS’s Geographic Alliance of Iowa (GAI) for the project, led by project director Alex Oberle, assistant professor of geography, and curriculum specialist Kay Weller, associate professor of geography, both co-coordinators of the GAI.

The project focused on the theme of population change and enlisted the participants in developing curricular materials connecting to similarities between Chile and the Midwest, particularly on topics that relate to rural depopulation, rapid urbanization, and international immigration.

The educators were selected due to their potential for developing high quality lesson plans and their ability to broadcast the new educational materials to teachers across the state, region, and nation. By the end of the project, participants will have presented their materials to other schools, led workshops for Iowa teachers, presented their lessons at professional conferences, shared their experiences with their communities, and distributed their lessons through various web portals.
Faculty and staff of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences are proud to welcome Philip Mauceri as our new dean. Dr. Mauceri most recently was the head of Political Science, which he joined in 1994.

The Regents Campus Violence Prevention Project, housed at UNI and directed by Annette Lynch (Textile and Apparel) and assisted by Michael Fleming (Family Studies), continues to serve as the flagship program of violence prevention at Iowa’s regents institutions. Earlier this fall, the program brought Dr. Jackson Katz to campus. Katz is co-founder of Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP), a leadership program that motivates both men and women to solve problems that have historically been considered women’s issues, such as rape, battery, and sexual harassment. He is also internationally known for his work in gender-violence-prevention education with men and boys, particularly in sports and the military.

Faculty in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology continue work on the new editorship of the Journal of Contemporary Ethnography, which has now become one of the top scholarly journals in the field. This endeavor has brought an international and interdisciplinary focus on the department and the college.

The Department of Social Work continues to offer a multidisciplinary course in Nicaragua. Faculty and students travel to the second-poorest county in Latin America to learn about social services in the region and to participate in projects that strengthen communities and improve living conditions for individuals and families. This year’s curriculum included helping build an organic cotton mill for economic development and participating in a children’s nutrition program.

Students and faculty from the Department of Design, Textiles, Gerontology, & Family Studies held the 17th Annual Textiles and Apparel Student Design Show, Chic International, in April. A new addition to this year’s expo was a social awareness component, which raised money for breast cancer research. TAPP students designed garments for the cause, and the audience voted via donation for the best design.
On September 18, 2009, Nancy Powell was sworn in as Director General of the Foreign Service of the United States by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton at a ceremony in the US Department of State. Born in Cedar Falls, Iowa, Ambassador Powell graduated from UNI with a degree in history teaching and taught high school social studies in Dayton, Iowa, for 6-1/2 years before joining the Foreign Service in 1977. She has served as US Ambassador to Nepal (2007-2009), Pakistan (2002-2004), Ghana (2001-2002), and Uganda (1997-1999). Previous assignments abroad include Ottawa, Kathmandu, Islamabad, Lome, Calcutta, New Delhi, and Dhaka.

The Departments of Political Science and History have collaborated to offer a one-year joint faculty appointment. Michelle Flores, who is working toward a PhD at the University of Southern California, is offering Liberal Arts Core courses in the Middle East and an upper division course in modern Middle Eastern history and politics. This appointment was made possible by the generous R. Gordon Hoxie Endowed Professorship.

The college recently awarded Adele Whitenack Davis Gerontology Awards to three CSBS faculty to conduct gerontological research. Elaine Eshbaugh (Family Studies) will explore students’ interest in gerontology as related to their own anxiety about death; Gowri Betrabet Gulwadi (Interior Design) will conduct a study of memory display boxes in dementia care centers; and Otto MacLin (Psychology) will examine cross-racial bias in elderly eyewitnesses.

In October 2009, faculty from the Department of History began a monthly radio appearance on Iowa Public Radio with Greg Shanley to discuss historical topics of interest to the people of Iowa.

Dr. Carol Gilligan visited campus in April. The Department of Psychology hosted the 16th Annual College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Conference this spring, which drew record numbers of students from across the Midwest. The event’s keynote speaker was Carol Gilligan, an internationally respected professor and expert on gender studies, psychology, and ethics. Dr. Gilligan’s appearance was sponsored by the Everett Alderman Endowment.

Below: This year’s textile and apparel student designs for breast cancer awareness. For more photos of the design show by professor Mitchell Strauss, visit www.uni.edu/tapp.
Trudy Eden (History) was curator for “Slow Food to Fast Food: The Way Iowans Ate,” at the UNI Museum this summer. The popular exhibit explored Iowans’ eating habits from 1870 to 1970. Much of her research has focused on the history of food and nutrition, and she has published a new book, *The Early American Table: Food and Society in the New World.*

Andrey Petrov (Geography) is the principle investigator of a National Science Foundation Arctic Social Sciences Grant entitled, “Creative Arctic: Creative Capital for Regional Development in the Arctic.” He has also been a collaborator with the International Polar Year Arctic Social Indicators Project, endorsed by the Arctic Council.

Cathy DeSoto (Psychology) has been continuing her work on the role of toxins in neurodevelopmental disorders, including autism. Recent work shows that the high rates of autism are not randomly distributed, but are higher near sources of high pollution.

Christopher Larimer (Political Science) was recently awarded the 2010 Charles Hill Research Award for Non-tenured Faculty, which will support an original project, “Can a phone call really get you to vote?” He has also co-authored a new book, *The Public Policy Theory Primer.*

Ramanathan Sugumaran (Geography) has received a grant from the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency to study real-time predictive framework for mosquito-borne diseases.

Donald Gaff (Anthropology) directed the department’s archaeological field school at Hartman Reserve Nature Center in Cedar Falls this summer. This year’s students presented the results at an archaeological symposium this fall.

Reinier Hesselink (History) received a Japan Foundation Fellowship for study in Japan this year for his book manuscript, *The Rise and Fall of Christian Nagasaki, 1560-1640.*

Faculty Briefs

Joe Gorton and Keith Crew (Criminology) have received a grant to evaluate the Tri-County Drug Enforcement Taskforce’s Methamphetamine Initiative, which conducts major drug investigations in Black Hawk and Bremer Counties.

Fred Besthorn (Social Work) co-chaired the coordinating and planning committee for the first International Conference on Ecology and the Helping Professions held in Calgary.

Gowri Betrabet Gulwadi (Interior Design) has earned the designation of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional. LEED is a “green” building certification system designating that a building was constructed using strategies aimed at promoting sustainability. She and her students have been involved in the renovation planning for Sabin Hall.

Anthropology students discovered two new sites at this year’s field school at Hartman Reserve. Expanded excavation revealed the remains of a fire pit, some new types of pottery (about 1,600 years old), arrowheads, and other items.
Laura Praglin (Social Work) received a Pforzheimer Research Support Grant from the Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America, Harvard University. She presented the results of her research there this fall.

Dhirendra Vajpeyi (Political Science) presented new research, “The Politics of Transfer of Nuclear Technology in South Asia,” at the 21st World Congress International Political Science Association in Santiago, Chile, this summer. He also was elected chair of its committee on technology and sustainable development.

Clemens Bartollas (Criminology) and Katherine van Wormer (Social Work) have collaborated to co-author a new book, *Women and the Criminal Justice System*. Dr. Bartollas has published six additional books in the past year and Dr. van Wormer three.

Carolyn Hildebrandt (Psychology) was the program chair for the Association for Constructivist Teaching conference in Mexico this fall. It was their first international, completely bilingual conference and included Spanish- and English-speaking participants from across the US and Mexico.

Jim McCullagh (Social Work) was recently honored with a special award from the Iowa School Social Workers for his work as editor of the *Journal of School Social Work*. He also continues to head the Iowa Department of Human Services training project at UNI.

Richard Featherstone and Steven Briggs (Criminology) are working with the Black Hawk County Sheriff’s Office and Pathways Behavioral Services, a substance abuse and mental health treatment center in northeast Iowa, on a project that uses crime mapping to examine if there is a spatial relationship between violent crime and businesses that serve alcohol.

Mark Grey (Anthropology) was presented a One Iowa Award by Iowa’s lieutenant governor for his work in promoting cultural understanding and respect for Iowa’s ethnic populations.

Congratulations to our faculty who earned tenure and promotions last year! Such an achievement requires dedication to the highest quality of scholarship, service, and teaching. Receiving tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor were Gary Gute (Family Studies), Laura Kaplan (Social Work), and Scott Peters (Political Science). Promoted to full Professor were Brenda Bass (Family Studies) and Lou Fenech (History).

CSBS welcomes four new faculty this year. Lindsay Cohn (Duke Univ.) and Laura Janik (Univ. of Connecticut) have joined Political Science with expertise in international relations; Nicholas Schwab (Univ. of Wyoming) has joined Psychology with an expertise in health psychology; and Tara Opsal (Univ. of Colorado) has joined Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology with an expertise in criminology.
Student News

Elizabeth Messerli had a memorable summer. What could have been an ordinary break from classes in her hometown of Fairfield, Iowa, was instead an amazing experience that she won’t soon forget. A sophomore double-majoring in psychology and leisure, youth, and human services, and one of the college’s prestigious SBS Scholars, she enrolled in the history course offered in Greece each May. A popular class among students, the excursion also included Elizabeth’s sister Katharine, a senior art major at UNI.

Elizabeth says, “In the three weeks we explored almost every area of the country, I learned so much! I not only learned about Greece’s history on many different dimensions, but also got to travel out of the country for the first time, as well as see how much I don’t know about the world—something that makes me want to learn even more!”

But while their academic pursuits took them to countless amazing places throughout the country, there were many experiences that the young women could only have encountered outside class.

One of Elizabeth’s favorite memories of the trip was in the town of Thessaloniki. After a morning of learning, the students were dismissed to find lunch on their own. The sisters left behind the traditional tourist spots in search of a more authentic part of town. Eventually they found a little restaurant run by an older couple where no English was included in the menu or even spoken. And in an ancient city on the Mediterranean coast, two sisters from Iowa enjoyed a meal.

Of her experience, Elizabeth says, “Without your financial help, I wouldn’t have been able to go on the trip.... I appreciate the opportunity that you allowed me in this way. It changed my worldview.”

One of the college’s priorities is to encourage all students to participate in a meaningful international experience, but realizing that dream has become increasingly more difficult for them. To find out how you can personally help students like Elizabeth have life-changing experiences, see page 10.

Adam Haselhuhn (Political Communication) and Jacob Rudy (Political Science) were elected president and vice-president of the Northern Iowa Student Government (NISG) for the 2009-2010 year. It is the third time in the last four years that CSBS students have been elected to both positions.

Natalie Turner (Sociology) received the Steve Wieting Award at the April meeting of the Iowa Sociological Association. The award is given to the student who best combines theory and research in his or her work. Natalie’s winning research was titled, “Feminism Hits the Mainstream: Gender, Sexuality, and Comic Book Sheroes.”

Angel Banks (Public Administration) was accepted to the Urban Institute’s Summer Academy for Public Policy Analysis and Research in Washington, DC. She also served as Director of Diversity Affairs for NISG last year and is now the Director of Diversity and Student Life.

Rory Deol and Derrick Adams (Psychology) have been conducting research under the guidance of Psychology faculty Rob Hitlan and Cathy DeSoto. The group will present their work on the social effects of testosterone levels at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology to be held in Las Vegas.
On behalf of the students of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, we express our sincere appreciation for all the alumni and friends who have contributed to the Dean’s Fund for Excellence and allowed our students opportunities they otherwise might not have had. We are profoundly grateful for their support.

Below is the 2008-2009 CSBS Loyalty Roster—those donors who gave $100 and above to the Dean’s Fund during the previous academic year.

Dean’s Fund Inner Circle: $1,000+
Randolph & Ruth Lyon
Pamela & Mark Whitmore
Harvey & Gabriella Sperry

$251-$500
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Timothy & Judith Kniep
Helen T Sorensen
Lynnette & Gregory Harter

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Timothy & Mila Grady
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Lois & Lowell Lieue
Thomas & Karen Banse
Stanley R Van Hauen
James & Deborah Petersen
Jon & Sandra Sullivan

The Dean’s Fund Inner Circle is a new initiative within the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences that will recognize alumni and friends who give $1,000 and above to the Dean’s Fund. Inner Circle members will be recognized in SBS and UNI publications, receive invitations to special university events, and receive periodic communication and updates from the Dean of SBS. Please consider joining this special group of donors during the upcoming year!

The Northern Iowa Family Services Organization (NIFSO) has formed a new campus group dedicated to Alzheimer’s disease awareness. The group will promote fundraising, advocacy, and education, and it will also be a forum where students can share their personal stories of how the disease has affected their lives and find support. Most recently, students and faculty in the group raised money for research by participating in this year’s Alzheimer’s Association Memory Walk.

Last year, students in CSBS programs participated in over 97,000 hours in the community through internships, volunteering, and service learning.

UNI’s chapter of Phi Upsilon Omicron, the national honor society for family and consumer sciences, recently placed second in the organization’s national competition for their professional project. Pictured above are the chapter’s leadership: (L to R) Caitlin Pixler, Margo Colthurst, Kaylan Hammerlinck, Danielle McCracken, Danielle Williams, Kathy Wood, and Pat Gross, faculty advisor.
I am truly fortunate to get to meet with our Social and Behavioral Sciences alumni when I am traveling throughout Iowa, the Midwest and across the country. Two things always make an impression on me regarding our alumni:

1) We have alumni that are successful in so many different fields in part because of their degree in the social sciences. Whether they are in local, state and federal government, business, education, law or social services, our alumni truly represent a rich cross section of our society’s workforce.

2) We have alumni that are faithful in their willingness to support UNI and initiatives that benefit the CSBS students and faculty.

This year, 47 UNI students were able to participate in study abroad programs through the generosity of alumni who supported our Dean’s Fund for Excellence. The Alderman Lecture series supported noted psychologist Carol Gilligan speaking at our Social and Behavioral Science Research conference. Lastly, we are privileged to have a visiting professor of Middle Eastern studies teaching in our History and Political Science departments supported through the Hoxie professorship. The CSBS students and faculty would like to say thank you to all of our alumni and friends who believe in us and generously support our initiatives. Please consider how you will make an impact on the students and faculty of today in the following ways:

**Support the CSBS Dean’s Fund for Excellence (DFFE).** With a Dean’s Fund gift of $1,000 or more, you will become a member of the Dean’s Fund Inner Circle and will join others who are committed to the long-term growth and mission of CSBS. Gifts of all sizes to the DFFE provide direct support to SBS students and faculty in a variety ways each year, including support for our study abroad programs and student research.

**Give to the UNI Annual Fund.** The annual fund is critical in providing funds to the university that will be used immediately where they are needed most.

**Endow a scholarship or program fund.** Endowed scholarships create a permanent fund that provides vital financial support for our students and help give UNI an advantage when recruiting students. Academic programs will benefit for years to come through the support you provide.

**Join UNI’s Old Central Associates** by creating a legacy for the future with a planned gift. By including UNI in your estate planning, or making a planned gift now, you can help students and programs in a way you never thought possible.

Thank you for your support and your loyalty to the University of Northern Iowa! Please feel free to contact me at (800) 782-952, (319) 273-5468, or john.aronowitz@uni.edu.

**Dorothy Jean Ray**

Dorothy Jean Ray had a passion for understanding the world around us. She died in 2007.

This year she helped a student understand native groups in North America.
Donor Spotlight: Sue Caley

Sue Caley (History ’81) came to UNI as a hometown girl from Cedar Falls, Iowa, and although her career has taken her away from the Cedar Valley, she has never forgotten her roots. Sue came to UNI intent on being a social sciences teacher, but a part-time job with a public relations agency when she was in college took her career down another path. Sue now works at Wells Fargo in Des Moines in the communications department supporting her teams’ efforts in a variety of Wells Fargo’s lines of business.

She says, “I’m very proud of the education I received from UNI and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. To this day I am a big believer in a broad liberal arts education, and UNI gave me the chance to study history, sociology, and geography, which are topics of interest to me.” Sue is a steadfast supporter of UNI and believes in what our students in the CSBS are doing by giving to the Dean’s Fund for Excellence. The CSBS Dean’s Fund for Excellence gives students the chance to receive financial support for study abroad and pursue undergraduate research opportunities, and provides support for other initiatives within the college. Sue also takes advantage of an employer match Wells Fargo provides for many types of charitable giving.

Sue does more than just her personal giving to UNI. In addition to volunteering for UNI events in Des Moines, she encourages friends and co-workers who are UNI alums to give back as well and never hesitates to try to recruit students to apply to UNI.

“I had a number of wonderful professors at UNI, people who are icons in the social sciences, like David Walker, John Eiklor, and Leland Sage, as well as Glenda Riley, who was really at the forefront in the area of women’s studies on campus. All of these people helped increase my knowledge of the world, which provides me a greater understanding in my everyday interactions and conversations at a company like Wells Fargo,” she says. “I believe that everyone can do something and there is not any amount that is too small to help students.”

Dean’s Fund for Excellence

The CSBS Dean’s Fund for Excellence allows the dean to fund opportunities and activities that increase student access to existing programs and enhance the quality of education they receive at UNI.

During the current year, the areas of greatest need have been identified by Dean Mauceri as:

• Support for CSBS students to participate in study abroad programs.
• Funds for undergraduate students to pursue their research or internships.
• CSBS undergraduate and graduate student travel to professional conferences to present the results of their research.

Our purpose is to provide students with the best possible educational experience during their time at UNI, enriching their education in ways that will stay with them for a lifetime. Moreover, experiences such as these can give students an important edge as they apply for further study, or as they search for a job after graduation. Please help support the CSBS Deans Fund for Excellence!
1940s

Ruth (Ullerich) Hein (Home Economics/English ‘44) is a retired teacher. She went on to earn her master’s degree and taught 10th grade English for over 28 years in Decorah, Iowa. She has published numerous ghost story books and a book of poems.

1960s

William Ashby (Social Studies/Math ‘63) retired after 33 years in 7-12 education, 17 of them as an AEA consultant. In the 13 years since retirement, he has worked rebuilding bowling pins, served as an adjunct instructor, and currently is a test-scorer for state standardized tests. He says of last year’s edition, “The picture of Dr. Erma Plaehn and the remodeling of Sabin Hall brought back many memories of trudging to the third floor to learn about government and politics from her. She encouraged me to apply for a week internship in Washington, D.C., as the guest of Congressman Fred Schwengel. As a result of the week I have stayed involved in local politics since 1960.”

Carl Oldsen (Social Science/Library Science ‘63) lives in Ohio. He began working as a librarian at the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School and later went on to graduate school at the Peabody Library School, Vanderbilt University. He retired as an information systems manager in 2001, having worked at Michigan State University, the Council for Exceptional Children in Washington, D.C., Ohio State University, and the Ohio Department of Aging. He now enjoys spending time with his grandchildren and his friends in the area.

1970s

John Anderson (History/Political Science ‘76) has been catalog librarian at St. Bonaventure University in Allegany, New York, since 2003. He catalogs many kinds of items for the Friedsam Memorial Library collection, including the rare book holdings, many of which are in Latin, Italian, German, French, Spanish, and more.

1980s

Mary Potter Kenyon (Psychology ‘85) lives in Manchester, Iowa, with her husband David (Social Work ‘81) and four of their eight children. She is a freelance writer whose new book was published this fall.

Maria Wharff Cameron (Political Science ‘86) is the desk officer for Brazil in the US Department of Commerce.

1990s

Karen (Sparks) Gale (Social Work ‘93) has been a youth service worker for the State of Iowa at the Iowa Juvenile Home/State Training School for Girls in Toledo for over 15 years. She and husband Rodney have two children.

Tracie Nicholson (Criminology ‘95) has been a deputy juvenile officer in the state of Missouri, where she investigates and interviews juvenile suspects for law violations and delinquency, for 13 years. In her leisure time, she enjoys traveling and hiking. Of her time at UNI, she remembers with fondness her adviser and great inspiration, Norris Durham of anthropology.

2000s

Angela Ott (Anthropology ‘07) spent a year volunteering with VISTA, an AmeriCorps program designed to fight poverty, at a reservation in North Dakota. This fall, she began a PhD program in linguistics at Purdue University.

Elizabeth Pastrano (Public Administration ‘08) works in the White House Office of Legislative Affairs.

Please complete and submit the form on the facing page if you would like to be included in next year’s CSBS Statements. As this is an annual publication, information in the Alumni Updates may have been submitted up to a year ago. Try as we might to be accurate, we apologize if any information is incorrect or outdated.

Are you a member of the UNI Alumni Association? For as little as $35 per year, you can take advantage of many member benefits while supporting the mission and programs of the association and the university. Visit www.unialum.org for more information about the levels and benefits of membership.
Alumni Updates

We’d like to include you in next year’s edition!

Name ____________________________________________
Address____________________________________________
Phone # __________________________ E-mail _______________________
Year of Graduation _______________ Degree/Major ____________________
Occupation _____________________________________________
Current Employer _________________________________________
Items you’d like to share about yourself in next year’s edition,
or other suggestions for items you would like to see included:

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Return to: CSBS Statements, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0403. Information can also be e-mailed to holly.bokelman@uni.edu, or you can write us a longer letter. We love hearing from our alumni and our friends!

Alumni Spotlight: Ellen Habel

Ellen Habel (Public Administration ’90) is the assistant city administrator for Coralville, Iowa. Last year, Ellen was named one of the top 25 most influential people in Cedar Rapids/Iowa City by the Corridor Business Journal, having already been part of the Journal’s “Top 40 under 40” list.

Most recently, she was awarded the Rhonda Wood Smith Award at the Iowa League of Cities 2009 Annual Conference. The award recognizes the achievements of young city officials, the criteria for which include innovation, leadership, commitment, and sacrifice.

In addition to her work with the city, Ellen has also been active with the Housing Trust Fund of Johnson County, the Iowa Children’s Museum Board of Directors, RAGBRAI 2006, and with the development of the Coralville Center for the Performing Arts. She has also been recognized for her work in helping the area recover after the flooding of 2008, and she was instrumental in Coralville’s recent award of $27 million in I-JOBS funding to rebuild flood-damaged roadways.

A native of Durango, Iowa, Ellen is married to fellow UNI alum Kevin Habel. They live in Swisher with their three children.
The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences hosted a Chinese Carnival as part of UNI’s Family Fun Weekend in early October. The event drew UNI faculty, staff, students, and families of all ages who were able to take a whirlwind tour of Chinese arts, crafts, culture, and food. The event was created by Carole Edginton, an instructor in Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology.